

THE  
SEVERAL  
INFORMATIONS  
OF

Mr. Simeon Wright,  
Thomas Launder  
AND  
Richard Perkin.

Concerning the Horrid  
POPISH PLOT  
IN  
ENGLAND.

And the several ways that have been used to take off the *KINGS* Witnesses, and to hinder the further discovery of it. The two former, being witnesses in the Trial of the late Lord *Stafford*, their *Informations* were taken upon Oath by *Edmond Warcup*, Esq; One of His Majesties Justices of the Peace for *Middlesex* and *Westminster*, in *December* last 1680.

The latter was taken upon Oath by Sir *Robert Atkyns*, Kt. at the Assizes at *Stafford*, 1679.

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The whole Informations being nothing but matter of Fact.

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L O N D O N, Printed for *Thomas Simmons*, at the Princes-Arms in *Ludgate-street*, MDCLXXXI.



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THE  
Publishers Preface  
TO THE  
READER.

**I***T is a Truth notoriously known to all considering Persons in this Nation, that since the happy Discovery of the late Hellish and Damnable Popish Plot, against the life and Government of His Majesty, and against our Protestant Religion, and Liberties, and especially upon the Trials of several of the Conspirators many deep Artifices have been used by the Plotters for defaming the Kings Witnesses, and for invalidating of their Testimonies; for these ends witnesses have been fetch'd from Saint Omers, and have appeared at several Trials, but how ill they acted their parts, and how unworthy they were of the names of Just and lawful Witnesses, all men know. Besides these we may remember, Mr. READINGS, endeavouring to take off Mr. BEDLOE; and PRICE and TASBOROUGHs Tampering with Mr. Dugdale, though all issued in their own shame; and they*  
*b all*

## The Publishers Preface

*all receiv'd their just demerits. Nor can the designs, of Knox, Osborn, and Lane, to take off Doctor Oates's Evidence be obliterated, it is well known how they also made use of Mr. Dangerfield, who, as himself acknowledgeth, was engaged through the wicked and malicious instigation of the Countess of Powis, the five Popish Lords in the Tower, and their Accomplices in a horrid and damnable design of charging the Presbyterians with a pretended Plot against the present Government and Religion by Law established. A very fine trick to take the Odium of the Plot off from themselves; But it pleased Almighty God out of his Infinite mercy to this Discoverer, and to many Innocent Persons that were to be accused, yea to the whole Kingdome, to bring him to a true sense of the guilt he had contracted, and to a Resolution to make a free Discovery of whatever he had been Privy to, in this Design;*

*The Popish Cause still being exposed, by discovering the Artifices aboue, they were put upon new contrivances to hide it, or blast the discovery of it, several of which are in the following Informations fully laid open.*

*One Thing I dare not omit here, Viz. My own Observation all along in the progress of this Matter, That since the first Discovery of this Plot, when ever the Kings Evidence hath seemed to be as it were at a Bay, as discouraged by the Power or Policy of malevolent Persons, then by the Providence of the Most High another Witness hath risen up to retrieve and confirm what before seemed to be at a loss: Thus after the endeavours to disparage and vilifie Dr. Oats, in came Mr. Bedloe, then Mr. Dugdale, to assert, and more fully to evince the Truth of the Doctors Testimony, which was then and since, by many interested Persons endeavoured to be shaken. After this God raised up Mr. Praunce, who fully discovered the Horrid and Bloody Murther of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, and confirmed the Plot in several particulars, Viz. As to the designed Murther of his Sacred Majesty, the Right Honourable the*  
Earl



to the Reader.

Earl of Shaftsbury, and others: And since him a Cloud of Witnesses, to put the Plot past dispute, have appeared, as Mr. Jenison, Mr. Smith, Mr. Bolron, Mr. Mowbray, Mr. Turbervil, Seignior Francisco de Faria, and several others: And besides this Plot in England, there hath been another, altogether as cruel and bloody, carried on in Ireland, which hath been fully discovered by several Persons of good Credit, as Mr. Hetherington, Mr. Macnemarra, Mr. Boork, Mr. Fitz-Gerald, Mr. Sampson, and others.

But notwithstanding these great discoveries how many wilfully (or at least pretendedly) shut their eyes, but tho they will not see (according to that Scriptural Expression) yet in time, they shall see and shall be ashamed, for the hand of God hitherto hath been more then ordinarily seen in these matters.

The Reader hath here before him a few of the very many Decrees of Popish Adversaries against the Discoverers of their Plot. Enough to satisfy any unprejudic'd and unbiass'd man of the Truth and reality of the Plot, since such wayes as these, viz. Stabbing, Forfeathering, and Burning, were to be us'd to take off those that revealed it.

The first Information you have before you is Mr. Wrights, who hath fully discovered, the several ways wherein he was instructed for the taking off Mr. Dugdale, and having so great opportunities to have murder'd him, his Preservation is only to be ascribed to the wonderful mercy of God, and that failing, his next work was to blast his Reputation, by Swearing Subornation of perjury against him, but when this was to be done his Conscience misgave him, and God at length brought him to discover the whole Intreague.

The second Information is that of Thomas Launder, who hath also discovered the several ways by which he was perswaded to take off Mr. Dugdale, and when it was perceived that he was not a Tool for their purpose, then to sacrifice Mr. Dugdale to their fury, the house in which  
he

## The Publishers Preface, &c.

he lay must be fired, in order to destroy him, but herein also God wonderfully appeared for his Preservation.

That none of these Gracious Providences of the Almighty may be lost upon this Kingdom, but all improved with wisdom to an humble acknowledgment and thankful Obedience, ought to be the Prayer of every True Protestant.

The third contains a Horrid story of Romish Priests, and their followers impiety, a story, the like (but among Papists) has not been heard of, no wonder that a Dying Traytor may go out of the world with a Lie in his Mouth, since so notorious falsehoods as these are allowed by their Priests themselves, since such Truths, may be so solemnly denied, and that with such Horrid Imprecations, and dreadful Oaths.

These Papers are published to the end that all such as are concerned for the Welfare and Prosperity of their Religion and Country, may be the more fully convinced, how much it is their interest, to endeavour for the future to disappoint all the contrivances of this cruel Bloody Party, who are so active, and so indefatigably industrious to promote their own Designs under the pretence of Religion, this is the benefit, that is heartily wished may accrue, by the Publishing of these Informations to all English-men, and to all the True Lovers of the True Protestant Religion.

V A L E.

(1)

THE  
INFORMATION  
OF

Symeon Wright,

BARBER CHIRURGEON

IN

CHANCERY-LANE

IN

LONDON,

*Taken upon Oath this 17th. day of December;  
1680. before me Edmond Warcup Esq;  
One of His Majesties Justices of the Peace in  
the said County and City.*

**M**r. Plessington coming from beyond the  
Seas went into Stafford-shire, and at  
the Right Honorable Lady Gerards  
at Sandon, he became acquainted with a Sister  
of mine, that then waited on the young Lord,  
by whose meanes, he came to the knowledg of  
B my



my Father and Mother, who then and still live at Stone in *Stafford-shire* ; at his return to *London* he brought recommendations from them to me, to my Masters a Barber and Periwig-maker in *Chancery-lane*. This was the beginning of our acquaintance, which was afterwards improved to those wicked ends, I am now about to relate.

This was about the year 1672 or 1673, and to the best of my memory he did then belong to *Lincolns-Inn*, from thence he went to serve the Lady *Marchioness of Clinrickard* in *Corent-Garden*, and was from thence advanced to be the Lord *Bellasis* his Steward, which place I suppose he still holds.

After the discovery of the Hellish and damnable Popish Plot I gave him a visit in *German-street*, and told him the talk of the Town about his Lord, whereupon he replied, dear Child it is a false thing, and my Lord is as clear as the Child unborn, and is with the King at *New-Market*, and as great a Favorite as any one whatever. It is well, said I, if it prove so, and he told me I need not fear it.

When strict enquiry was made after the Murderers of *Sir Edmundbury Godfr*, *Mr. Plessington* was upon suspicion taken into the Custody of *Mr. Wickham* a Messenger, and upon a Saturday Night came to the Ship Tavern without Temple Bar with his Keeper, whether he sent for me, and when I came to him, after  
some



some other discourse, told me his condition, and pull'd out a small book with a lock and key to it, which his keeper immediatly searched, but upon perusal of it, restored it to him again; then at his request I went to the Lord *Marques* of *Winchesters* to acquaint his Lordship with the greatness of his Charge, and to beg his Lordships favour: his Lordship sent for me into his Bed-Chamber, and asked me how Mr. *Plessington* did, and after I had delivered my Message, he bad me remember his kind respects to Mr. *Plessington*, and tell him he did not think it convenient so soon to move for his enlargement, but that it should not be long before he should hear from him. It was upon the Lords day, that I waited on the *Marques*, and on the *Tuesday* following he was discharged and came to return me thanks for my care and paines, adding, that he would not be ungrateful to me when occasion should serve. Whereupon I replied; Sir I am very glad that you have so good a friend, meaning my Lord *Marques* of *Winchester*, to which he thus answered, Ah Child if you were in my condition, you would have as good and better.

Upon the first rumour of Mr. *Stephen Dugdale*s discovery *Mr. Plessington* was very inquisitive whether I knew him, I told him yes very well; upon which he answered, that he was sorry that I knew such a base fellow or words to that effect.

And

And after Mr. *Dugdales* coming to Town, he observing a great intimacy betwixt us; Told me, that he would come oftner to see me, but that he did not care to see *Dugdale*; and yet at the same time would express his desire to see him, but would bid me take no notice of it to *Dugdale*, and was very frequently asking questions concerning him, alwayes speaking very scurrilously of him.

He told me he was very well satisfied of my truth and honesty, and that it should not be long before I should know more of his mind, which discourse was soon over.

Not long after he came to me again, and told me he wanted some secret discourse with me, and thus went on. You are (said he) *Dugdales* Barber still; yea (said I) I am; pray (said he) where do you trim him? I answered in my shop, with three or four Souldiers about him. Do you, said he, never trim him privately? I told him I never yet had, but was once asked by him to trim him at his Chamber at the Cock-pit. VVell said he, if that fellow were aside it would be well for him that did it, and he thought me a very fit man to be imployed in that affair, and went on making me very fair promises of great rewards, and at length came to a sum certain, saying that if I would destroy him or blast his Evidence, I should have seven hundred pounds paid me. And to confirm me that he was real, he bid me make provision to have it secured  
to

to me, accordingly I spak to Mr. Reaver an Apothecary, and one Mr. Cross, at the Horseshoo-Tavern, both in Chancery-lane, about security for such a summe, Mr. Cross went twice with me to speak with Mr. Plessington about one of the hundred pounds, but my great necessity dayly encreasing upon me, I was the more inclined to attempt Mr. Dugdales person, which accordingly I did, after this manner. Mr. Dugdale being late one Evening at the Horseshoo-tavern in Chancery-lane, sent for me (as he used frequently to do,) to accompany him home to his Lodging at the Cock-pit, and calling a Coach we two only went into it, this was an opportunity I had expected, and accordingly had provided a Dagger, which cost me 3 s. and 6 d. which I bought at a shop near Wallingford house; when we came into the Strand near Summer-set House, I sitting opposite to Mr. Dugdale in the Coach felt how low his bodice came, that I might know were to stab him securely, but Mr. Dugdale mistrusted me so far that he called to the Coach-man to stop, but I perswaded him on, but at Charing-cross, I again was attempting him, and he again was calling to the Coach-man to let him out, but I endeavoured to perswade him that I intended him no harm, yet he still so far mistrusted me, that when we came to the Cock-pit, he immediately stepped out of the Coach, and paid the Coach-man, and gave him a 1 s. more then his pay

could not have done so



to carry me back to the Horseshoe Tavern, I would have come out with a design to follow him, pretending to return by water, but he would not admit of it, but would have the Coach-man carry me back. When I saw I had missed this opportunity of Murdering him, I bid the Coach-man take notice where I had left him well, fearing he might be dispatcht by some other hand, and that I should be questioned for it. The Coach stood at the Sarazens head in *Camomil-street* near *Bishopps gate*, this was in the Month of *July*, 1679. Mr. *Dugdale* perceiving his person was attempted, obscur'd himself for several dayes, and then his Enemies reported, that he was run away from his Evidence, which Mr. *Plessington* understanding, he beleived I had given Mr. *Dugdale* his Pas-port for another world, and coming to me then at the *Horseshoe Tavern*, he gave me thirty Guinies; but Mr. *Cross* coming into the room at that instant of his delivering them me, I immediately return'd them him again, not desiring any Eye witnesses of my receiving his gold, at which he seemed to be very angry.

Some time after this some unexpected troubles overtaking me, I was for the security of my person obliged to quit my Habitation, and the Night before I went, I met with Mr. *Plessington*, near middle row in *Holbourn*, and told him I feared I could not performe my promise to him



him, because I wanted mony to carry on the design, he desired me to be as true to him as he would be to me, and then gave me three Guinies, and ordered me to meet him the *Monday* following at *Billings-gate*, this was in *September* 1679, but I failed then meeting him.

I then took a lodging in *Wapping*, unknown to *Mr. Plessington*, but he meeting *Mr. Leacroff* of *Walton* in *Stafford-shire*, my very good friend, enquired of him where I was, and pretended that I had much damnified him, in not meeting him at *Billings-gate* according to appointment, *Mr. Leacroff* told him that I was under a Cloud, at which he seemed very sorry, and said, he might notwithstanding have met me, for he knowes I design him no hurt but should have met him for his advantage.

After this he understanding that I was removed to a *Cheesmonger* in *Ratcliff*, caused me frequently to visit him in the *Tower*, and if at any time I was questioned whether I went, he ordered me to make use of my own Friends names in the *Tower*, as *Mr. Sbenton* in the *Minte*, *Mr. Hubbard* at *Sir George Whartons*, or *Mr. Spenser* at *Sir Jonas Moores*, any of which names would have gained me admittance.

At one of our meetings there, I told him that *Mr. Dugdale* had appointed me to meet him on such a day (which day I then told him) at the *Fleece Tavern* at *Billings-gate*, then he desired me,

me to call of him, that day before I went to *Dugdale*, which I did, and dined with him at his Lords Lodging in the *Tower*, it was the day after His Grace the Duke of *Monmouth* returned from beyond the Seas or thereabouts.

When we had dined Mr. *Plessington* conveyed me to an Ale-house in the *Tower* near the Lieutenants House, the House had the Model of a ship or two hanging in it. There came two or three Gentlemen with Mr. *Plessington*, who importuned me to get Mr. *Dugdale* away from *Billingsgate* by water, designing to attempt him upon the water, as I supposed. I told them I would go to him to the *Fleece* and see what Company was with him, and if he were alone would acquaint them. Accordingly I went, and found two persons with him, and a third came to him whilst I was with him, but I had staid there longer than they expected, so that when I returned back to the Dog, they were gone, and had taken with them my Cane, which I left there.

The next day I went to Mr. *Plessington* for my Cane, who said to me we missed a brave opportunity Yesterday, I replied, not as good as when I missed my designe upon him in the *Strand*, no said he, but have at the third time, and then he seemed to suspect me for refusing the thirty Guinies at the *Horse-shoe*-tavern, which I told him I did fearing Mr. *Cross* should discover something of our designe, hang him (said he) if he do, weel tell him another story.

I then asked him what I should say to persons that asked me how I came so soon to my monies, when I so lately had it on hundred pound to put out to use; Page said he told them that it was mine, and that I being (as you feared) concerned in the Plot, you were to put it out in your name for my use, in which I observed his directions.

But he said he, that you continue to blast Dugdale all you can, for we can have no fitter person for the purpose than your self, but I will suddenly be with you again, and contrive a way for you to do it more easily and effectually.

Accordingly he came on a Saturday night and lay with me, and then told me that I being a witness for Mr. Dugdale in the Trial of *Price*, might do them the service they desired by swearing that Mr. Dugdale proffered me monies, maintenance, and protection as a King's evidence, if I would swear against Sir James Symons, Mr. Gerard, and others, this I promised to do; but before the trial having seriously considered what it was that I was about to do, my purpose was altered, and therefore desired Mr. Plessington to put it off, and told him I would be out of the way before I was subpoenaed, designing to go to *Obelmsford* in *Essex*, but he would by no means consent to it, and so I was at the trial of *Anne Price* and *John Tasborough*, but did not swear against Dugdale as I had promised, and as they expected, at which I after perceived they were much startled.

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Soon after Mr. *Plessington* coming to me; told me that I had lost my self, and that I was not the man he took me for, and after some other discourse, said that if I would yield my self forsworn in what I had witnessed at the Trial, he would get a Friend to speak to the Duke of York, and did not in the least question but by his means to get me a Pardon for Perjury. And he then instructed me to say that Mr. *Dugdale* threatened me (if I owned a word of our meeting at *Billingsgate*, or of his promises to me) that he would bring two to swear Treason against me and have me hanged, or at least such Crimes as should cause me to be Pillored.

And at his instigation I did tell several in and about *London*, that *Dugdale* was a Rogue, and that I would do his business for him ere long, that he had made me forswear my self to do him a kindness, with more such notorious falsehoods.

About four days after the Trial, I was upon suspicion apprehended for a Priest, and carryed before Sir *William Waller*, but was releast by the means of a Letter from my Honored Friend, Sir *Humphrey Doleman*, this was in February, 1679.

After this I began to stand firm to the Popish Interest



Interest, and was intended to be a witness against Mr. *Dugdale* in the Trial of the Lord *Aston* and Sir *James Symons*, this was in the beginning of the year, 1680.

That which confirmed me more to their Interest was the misinformation I had received by their meanes concerning Mr. *Dugdale*, viz. That he was the cause of my being apprehended for a Priest, and that he designed mischief against me, and that he had profered ten pounds, to take me before the Lord *Aston*'s Trial; with which I acquainted Sir *Thomas Whitegrave*, who bid me if any trouble of that Nature came upon me, to send to Mr. *Thomas Robinson* in *Curfews Alley*, where he and his Son *Bromley* lodged, and either of them would be my Baile. Sir *Thomas* was subpoena'd as a witness for the Lord *Aston*, and was a witness for the Lord *Stafford*, I therefore was forced frequently to shift my lodgings, and was entertained at Major General *Egertons*, he being from home: within a short time Mr. *Germin Drayton*, Butler both to Mr. *Heningham* and Sir *James Symonds*, and one *Samuel Holt* a Blacksmith to the Lord *Aston* of *Tixal*, which *Holt* was also a witness in the Lord *Staffords* trial, came to me frequently to the Bull-tavern in *Southampton-street*, Mr. *Drayton* oftner than the other, and did interceed with me to write something that might blast *Dugdale*,

*dale,*

which I did, and he called for it at the time appointed.

Two or three dayes after Mr. Drayton told me that he must bring a Gentleman to speak with me, but would not name him; accordingly the next day he called me, and we went together to the Court in Chancery, where Mr. Drayton, whether he brought one Mr. Longner, reputed to be the Lord Stafford's Solicitor, who thus attested, saying that he was glad to see me, for he felt a good face appear in their cause, and that any one would take me for an honest man than ever Dugdale was; adding that Sir James Symonds was better able to perform than Dugdale was to promise; and that I should not need to fear a gratuity, for they were the strongest side. Upon this I replied, that I was ready to serve them in such ways, as they should propose to me; then they desired me to write a Paper to Destroy Dugdale's Evidence; I told them that I had already written one, yea said Mr. Drayton, but this was now desired, is to satisfy Sir James Symonds; yet I often denied them for that very reason, because I had before given them one, but at last agreed to write a Paper in their method; and they were to pick the best out of both for their purpose; which when done, I was to swear to; I cannot undertake

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to remember the very words of it, but they dictated to me, and I wrote to this purpose.

Sir, I can, I bless GOD for it, with a safe Conscience swear, that Mr. *Dugdale* did at a private meeting betwixt him and my self proffer me money and a maintenance, and protection as one of the Kings Evidence, if I would stand by and swear for him against Sir *James Symonds*, and Mr. *Gerard* and others; this I do neither for fear nor favour, nor in hopes of any future gratuity, as I hope to be saved.

**SIMEON WRIGHT.**

This was by their direction, and then Mr. *Drayton* invited me to the Kings-bench Prison, whither I went, and after Dinner, Sir *James Symonds* sent for me to him to Mr. *Coolings*, and when I came, told me he hoped I was sensible how great his future gratitude should be, and that he hoped I would stand and fall by them when occasion should serve, and that he was sorry that he had no occasion for me at present, and then thrust twenty shillings into my hand.

Many other contrivances they had which

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I omit, because I would not be tedious, but can easily prove this, and a great deal more. This paper before mentioned, is the Paper that *William Viscount Stafford* produced in Court, upon his Trial.

They have another Paper of this nature, would they be so just to produce it, which I delivered to Mr. Drayton, but I know not in whose hands it is now; Mr. Henry Lee (Bayliff to *Walter Heningham Esq.*; who was accused to be one concern'd in this Hellish Popish Plot,) did frequently make it his business to revile and asperse Mr. Dugdale, especially about the beginning of *October* last, to one Mr. Moore, at the House of *Thomas Aspery*, of *Aston*, in *Stafford-shire*, which Mr. Moore then questioning him for, and asking his name, he reply'd his name was *Simeon Wright* a Barber, in *Chancery-lane*; by which it is very plain, that he was knowing to my being imployed to ruine Mr. Dugdale, as aforesaid, as indeed he was, and therefore made use of my Name to obscure his own.

They had within three Monthes last past, told me, that theirs is the strongest side, and have given me severe charge to stand or fall with them, and not be danted, from which encouragement,



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couragement, I did all that in me lay, to blast Mr. *Dugdale* wherever I came; but it hath pleased God to bring me to an acknowledgment of the truth, partly by meanes of His Majesties late Proclamation, for the encouragment of witnesses, and partly by the good Advice of severall Friends, but especially my own Conscience prompting me to this Declaration of the truth, for the clearing of the Innocent and exposing the Guilty.

**SIMEON WRIGHT.**

*Jurat* 17. Decem-  
ber, 1680.

Cor' me **EDMOND WARCUP.**

**FINIS.**

encouragement, I did all that in me lay, to place  
 Mr. Dugdale wherever I came; but it hath  
 pleased God to bring me to an acknowledgment  
 of the truth, partly by means of His Majesty's  
 late Proclamation, for the encouragement of  
 witnesses, and partly by the good Advice of  
 several Friends, but especially my own Conscience  
 prompting me to this Declaration of the  
 truth, for the clearing of the Innocent and ex-  
 posing the Guilty.

SIMMON WRIGHT.

Jan. 17. Done  
 1638.

Got me Edmund Warbur.

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THE  
INFORMATION  
OF

Thomas Lander

OF

*Shusborow* in the County of *Stafford*,

Another of the Witnesses in the

TRYAL

OF

The late Lord *Stafford*,

As it was taken upon Oath

By *Edmund Warcup*, Esquire, one of His Majesties  
Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*,  
and City and Liberties of *Westminster*, on the 24th  
day of *December*, 1680.

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L O N D O N,

Printed for *Thomas Simmons* at the *Princes Arms*  
in *Ludgate-street*, MDC LXXXI.



THE  
INFORMATION

OF

Thomas Lander

OF

Shropshire in the County of Stafford

Against the Witnesses in the

TRIAL

OF

The late Lord Stafford

As it was taken upon Oath

By Edward Howard Esquire; one of His Majesties  
Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex,  
and City and Liberties of Westminster, on the 24th  
day of December, 1680

L O N D O N

Printed for Thomas Simmons at the Princes Arms  
in Ludgate Street, MDCCLXXXI

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# THE INFORMATION

O F

**Thomas Lander**

O F

**Shutborton in the County of Stafford,**  
Taken upon Oath the 24th of December, 1689,  
before me *Edmund Warcup*, Esquire, one of his  
Majesties Justices of the Peace for the County  
of *Middlesex*, and City and Liberties of *Westmin-*  
*ster*, as followeth; viz.

**T**HIS Informant saith, That having been  
employed as a Workman several times at  
the House of my Lord *Aston* at *Tixall* in  
the County aforesaid, he was solicited by  
Mr. *Francis Hind*, Steward to the Lord *Aston*, to  
become a Witness against *Stephen Dugdale*, late  
Steward to the Lord *Aston*, any way to invalidate  
or take off his Evidence in relation to the Popish  
Plot, and he served this Informant with a *Subpoena*  
to come up to *London* for that purpose, at the

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late

late intended Tryal of the said Lord *Aston* in *June* last past; but before his coming up, the said Mr. *Hind*, *Francis Aston*, Son to the Lord *Aston*, and *Thomas Sawyear*, Servant to the said Lord *Aston*, &c. sent for this Informant into a private Room in the said Lord *Aston's* House; and there told him, That if he would swear such things as should be dictated to him by the Persons afore said, to invalidate or take off the said *Dugdale's* Evidence, he should have such a Reward as should be to his own content, and not want for Money and Horse, as might become a man of better Quality than himself. And this Informant agreeing to their Proposals, came up to *London* accordingly.

They perswaded this Informant likewise to swear that *Dugdale* was a Cheating Rogue, and had cheated this Informant and many more in the Country, whilst he was the Lord *Aston's* Steward. To which this Informant answered he would, and saith that *Hind* told him, That if he would do according as they directed him, that he should (besides the Rewards agreed upon) have his Charges born in coming to Town, in staying here, and going down again. And likewise saith, that he was to swear that *James Ansell*, (being a Witness in some things relating to the Discovery of the Plot) was a Perjured Rogue, and a Thief, and had perjured himself several times; and all such other things as they should dictate to him when he came up to *London*, in order to take off both their Evidence. And saith those that promised to make good his Reward for so doing, was Mr. *Herbert Aston*, his Lordships Uncle, *Francis Aston*, Son to the



the Lord *Aston*, and *Thomas Sawyear*, Servant to the said Lord *Aston*.

And this Informant saith, That being in *London*, and my Lord *Aston's* Tryal not being come on, he received no more of his Reward but his bare Charges; however they faithfully promised him when he had made good what he had promised them to swear, he should have his full Reward made good to him.

And this Informant saith, That in September last going up to my Lord *Aston's* House, he was made very welcome; and after some time was asked by one of the Servants of my Lord *Aston's*, where *Mr. Dugdale* lay; and this Informant told him, at one *Richard Perkins* next House to his own in *Shutborton*, about a Mile distant from my Lord *Aston's*; the said Servant, after some discourse had with this Informant, told him that he might do them good service, and have a good Reward for his pains, if he could devise to set fire on the Room where *Mr. Dugdale* lay, and burn him in his Bed. To which this Informant answered, that if he should do so, he should burn his own House, and endanger the whole Town. To which the Servant replied, that it were better that his House and the whole Town were burnt, rather than he (meaning *Mr. Dugdale*) should escape, who was a Rogue, and had betray'd his Lords Secrets, with several other Gentlemen; he at the same time telling this Informant, that he should (if he would undertake it) be well rewarded to his own content; but perceiving this Informant not to be ve-

ry willing? told him he was a Coward, he would not undertake to do so good a piece of service. The said Servant at the same time went to one *Walter Moore*, another Servant of my Lord *Aston's*, who was to join with this Informant in the said Act; and this Informant going home, saw the said *Walter Moore* walking about the said House that was to be fired; and this Informant not being willing that such a wicked Act should be done, acquainted one of his Neighbours with it, and so a Watch was set to preserve the said House where *Mr. Dugdale* lay, and all the Town, that night, and all the time after so long as *Mr. Dugdale* stayed there. This Informant having likewise heard the said *Moore* say, that *Dugdale* was a Rogue for having betrayed his Lords Secrets: And likewise saith, that when this Informant was to be a Witness for the Lord *Aston*, one *Samuel Holt* who was another Servant of my Lord *Aston's*, and also one *Samjeary* being Subpena'd up as Witnesses for my Lord *Aston*; they told this Informant that *Mr. Dugdale* was a Perjured Rogue, for laying the Plot of the Presbyterians upon the Papists, and if they or either of them could meet the said *Mr. Dugdale* conveniently, they would do his business for him: And saith, That the said *Holt* had received a sum of Money for the said service, as likewise the said *Walter Moore*.

And this Informant saith, That all those things which were so by them, as afore said, dictated to him, were altogether false, to any knowledge of this Informant, in relation to the said *Mr. Dugdale* and

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and the said Mr. *James Ansell*. And saith that  
several other Matters and Persons he knows of  
that were concerned herein (this Informant be-  
ing always made privy to most of their Con-  
trivances in this nature) that would almost hang  
them, which he is unwilling to discover against  
them, for that they are related to him.

*Thomas Lander.*

*Jurat. cor. me*

Edmond Warcup.

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*Dec. 25. 1680.*

**I** Do appoint *Tho. Simmons*, and no  
other, to Print this my Information,  
Witness my Hand,

*Thomas Lander.*

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*FINIS.*